

Message Text

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11
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W
----- 102445

R 131030Z SEP 73 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3814
INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

S E C R E T TEHRAN 6501

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CORRECTIONS THROUGHOUT ENTIRE TEXT)

DEPT PASS MUSCAT AND USINT CAIRO

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS PFOR IR
SUBJECT: AUDIENCE WITH SHAH

1. I PRESENTED GENERAL DUVAL BRETT, NEW CHIEF OF ARMISH/
MAAG, TO SHAH ON AFTERNOON 12 SEPTEMBER. GENERAL BRETT
WILL REPORT THROUGH HIS CHANNELS ON MILITARY SUBSTANCE OF
AUDIENCE. SHAH RAISED VARIOUS OTHER MATTERS WHICH ARE
SET FORTH BELOW:

(A) SHAH REFERRED TO FAVORABLE REPORTS HE HAD RECEIVED
ABOUT FIGHTING COMPETENCE OF HIS MEN IN OMAN. HE THEN
ASKED RHETORICALLY, "WHY IS IT THAT THIS WAR IS PERMITTED
TO DRAG ON? DO THE BRITISH NOT WANT TO END IT OR ARE
THEY NOT PREPARED TO COMMIT SUFFICIENT MANPOWER? WE HAVE
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MADE IT CLEAR THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO SEND WHATEVER TROOPS
ARE NEEDED TO FINISH IF OFF. YET WE HAVE BEEN ASKED FOR NO
FURTHER INCREMENT."

(B) SHAH THEN REFERRED BRIEFLY TO THE PDRY AND THE PRESENCE OF CUBAN TECHNICIANS THERE. HE MENTIONED CASTRO'S FERVENT ESPOUSAL OF THE RUSSIAN CAUSE AT THE RECENT NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE AND INDICATED THAT HE SAW NOTHING BUT FURTHER TROUBLE IN THE AREA RESULTING FROM CASTRO'S STOPOVER IN BAGHDAD EARLIER THIS WEEK.

(C) THE SHAH MENTIONED THAT HE HAD READ REPORTS TO THE EFFECT THAT THERE WERE NORTH KOREAN PILOTS IN EGYPT. HE ASKED IF THIS WERE TRUE. (WOULD DEPARTMENT PLEASE ADVISE THIS EMBASSY (A) AS TO ACCURACY OF THIS REPORT, AND (B) IF IT IS TRUE, HOW MANY PILOTS THERE ARE AND WHAT THEY ARE DOING?) IT IS HIS INTERPRETATION THAT IF NORTH KOREANS ARE INDEED IN EGYPT, IT MEANS THAT SADAT IS PULLING EVEN FARTHER AWAY FROM THE RUSSIANS SINCE THE SHAH BELIEVES THAT THE NORTH KOREANS ARE MORE CLOSELY IDENTIFIED WITH THE PRC IN THE COMMUNIST WORLD. THERE THEN FOLLOWED AN EXCHANGE BETWEEN US ABOUT KING FAISAL AND HIS FINANCIAL AND POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT SADAT. IN THIS CONNECTION THE SHAH MENTIONED THE FAVORABLE COMMENTS ABOUT IRAN WHICH HAVE BEEN EMANATING FROM VARIOUS SAUDI LEADERS LATELY. THE SHAH IS CLEARLY BEMUSED BY THIS AND WONDERS WHETHER THE REMARKS ARE SINCERE OR ARE DESIGNED TO LULL HIM.

(D) IN DISCUSSING IRAN'S FUTURE NAVAL ROLE IN THE ARABIAN SEA AND INDIAN OCEAN, THE SHAH STATED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED AN OFFICIAL INVITATION FROM THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT FOR AN OFFICIAL VISIT WHICH WILL PROBABLY TAKE PLACE IN OCTOBER 1974. THE SHAH SAID, "THIS INVITATION CAME FROM MR. WHITLAM," AT WHICH POINT HIS EYEBROWS SHOT UP AND THE LOOK ON HIS FACE BECAME QUIZZICAL. THIS WILL BE HIS FIRST TRIP DOWN UNDER.

(E) THE SHAH BELIEVES THAT PRESIDENT POMPIDOU'S WILLINGNESS TO STOP OVER BRIEFLY IN TEHRAN ON HIS WAY BACK FROM CHINA IS A RESULT OF TWO CONSIDERATIONS: (1) TO MAKE UP FOR
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THE RHUBARB AT THE TIME OF THE 2,500TH ANNIVERSARY AT PERSEPOLIS WHEN POMPIDOU WAS QUOTED IN THE PRESS AS HAVING MADE A DISPARAGING RETTYENCE TO THE LEVEL OF INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATION WHICH WOULD ATTEND THE CEREMONY; AND (2) THAT FRANCE NOW REALIZES THAT IRAN HAS BECOME A COUNTRY OF SOME STANDING AND IS WORTH INCREASED ATTENTION. THIS LATTER CONSIDERATION WAS MENTIONED WITH NO LITTLE SATISFACTION.

(F) WHEN ASKED IF CONDITIONS WERE IMPROVING IN THE BALUCHI AREA OF PAKISTAN, THE SHAH INDICATED THAT HE HAD NO INFORMATION TO INDICATE THAT THERE HAD BEEN ANY CHANGE. HE MILDLY RIDICULED THOSE AMERICANS AND OTHERS WHO APPEAR TO THINK THAT THE BALUCHI LEADERS, PARTICULARLY THE TRIBAL ONES, COULD BE DEALT WITH THROUGH THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS AND BY DEMOCRATIC

MEANS. HE PHILOSOPHIZED A BIT ABOUT DEMOCRACY, MAKING
THE RATHER OBVIOUS POINT THAT A PEOPLE HAD TO BE
EDUCATED TO IT AS WELL AS PREPARED TO MAKE THE SYSTEM
WORK. THE SHAH WAS CLEARLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE COMMENT
OF THE AFGHAN OFFICIAL AT THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE WHO
STATED IN A SPEECH THAT BALUCHISTAN WAS SIMPLY AN EXTENSION
OF THE PUSHTUNISTAN PROBLEM.
HELMS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED MUSCAT AND CAIRO.

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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